

**From:** Dave Hoyt [dave.hoyt@ashfordformula.com]

**Sent:** Monday, December 15, 2003 12:16 PM

**To:** adoptionregs@state.gov

**Subject:** [Docket No: RIN 1400-AA-88; 1400-AB-69];[FR Doc: 03-28544];[Page 64296-64297]; Intercountry Adoption Act of 2000: Hague Convention Agency accreditation and person approval

I am writing to you to express my opposition to the current treaty 22 CFR 96 & 98, the Hague Convention. Though this may have been written with good intentions it will put to great a burden on agencies in the United States that help American Citizens pursue international adoptions.

The creation of a Central Authority and the proposed regulations will eliminate many smaller agencies. The onerous fees that that agencies will have to pay to be certified will, like all taxes, duties, fees just be passed on tot the consumer or in this case the adoptive parents.

Having just recently adopted 3 children from Siberia, Russia in 2001, I can testify costs are already very expensive. The Hague Convention just puts the price out of many middle class American families. While my wife and I were picking up up one of our daughters from the orphanage in Novokuznetsk, there were many of the orphans playing in the front yard. As they saw us walking up they shouted "The Americans are here, take me with you." From the looks on their faces and their comments it was obvious to us that it is American families who are showing compassion on the orphans.

Please review and change the treaty, the costs need to be kept down as they are high already. Any further price increase will certainly limit the number of families that will be able to afford to adopt. I know in my particular case it would have made it much more difficult.

Thank you for your help.

Sincerely  
David Hoyt  
179 East 900 South  
Salem, UT 84653

12/15/2003